

Lt. Frank W. Loops, O-667527  
432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Grp.  
A.P.O. 520, 90 Postmaster N.Y.C.



Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops  
5418-13th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Frank W. Loops

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops  
5418-13th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A.

H. Frank W. Loops 0-607527  
(Sender's name)

432 S. 17th St. B. 100  
(Receiver's address)

A. P. O. 520, 8th St. N.W.

November 9, 1949  
(Date)

My dear folks,

Here I am again - don't know why, for I have nothing to say, startling or otherwise! - Same old same old with plenty of rain to make flying fall off some. Have spent the day reading and writing mostly. In between times we take time out for a bull session of flying. Have often wondered what on earth a bunch of flyers would talk about if they didn't have flying. Now I know it's a blessing they have that to fall back on. Don't know how we get so many tales to talk about - but we do. You get around to repeating your own so seldom that they are even interesting to hear again! We must have gone thru primary, basic & advance over and over. We even have the bombardiers and navigators swearing that when they get back to the U.S. they are going to put in for pilot training!

No mail for 5 or 6 days now but we know what's holding it up so we are hanging up better than usual. Always glad too when our mail comes thru.

Guess I'm not on the schedule for tomorrow I'll go to town and hang around - depending on what I find to do as to how long I'll stay. There's always the attraction of getting ice cream at the Red Cross in the afternoon!

V-MAIL

Lovey again  
Frank

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1



Print the complete address in plain text below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not reliable.

No.

W. L. Lops  
L.A.C.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Lops  
5418 13th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A.

From

H. Frank W. Lops, 0-66237  
(Sender's name)  
432 S. 17th St. B. B. Co.  
(Sender's address)  
A.P.O. 520, 1/2 Richmond, N.Y.  
Nov 4, 1943  
(Date)

Hiya folks,

Just came back to the tent after seeing Lina Turner in "Slightly Dangerous". Was very good and we really enjoyed it. Also several fellows came back with me, so we got out of old stove, some water, and proceeded to boil a couple of eggs a piece! They, likewise, were good and enjoyed! A lousy we can't afford of the for the simple reason of no eggs! - Mine are almost gone now, so guess I'll soon be in the same class as the other fellows - hungry!

Received sister's mail of Oct. 26th today. Glad you got my pictures of nest camp and stuff. Now you can see why I could enjoy myself so well. I wasn't surprised that you couldn't find it on your atlas! - Someday I shall have to tell you a "big" place near it! Glad, too, to learn of Bill Ketchum's return home. You afraid his movements have been a bit too quick for me to follow - Especially from just the news you've given me, but I think I know about what has happened!

Got to go to bed now - Tomorrow am going "afucking" again. It will make the first time in almost 2 months for me. It's funny - You don't like to do it, but everyone you go on means one more closer to going home! That's funny! So bye now and be good & I'll be careful! - Lots & lots of Love, Frank.

V - MAIL

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Lt. A.C.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Loops  
5418-13th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A.

4. Frank W. Lopez 06675  
(Sender's name)

432 Sqn, 17th Bomb. Gp  
(Sender's address)

A.P.O. 520, 9/8/81 master N1

October 19, 1943

(Date)

Helio Folke,

Don't know exactly how come you rate 2 letters the same day but being as how one was a regular one, and it was really started yesterday, guess I can afford it! Besides, something happened this afternoon that you should know about anyway, and when you come down to it, why am I explaining a second letter in the first place?

This afternoon I officially received my first air medal - tho' really not a medal - only the ribbon signifying it. The real thing to be issued after the war. Bunkiest of - some years ago I got my official orders that both the medal & oak leaf cluster were mine. And that, I thought, finished that - but no. Today they got me all dressed up - shaved and everything - and got us lined up for the General! - Then Gen. Webster pinned the award on each and every one of us as we were called by name and walked up to him. Just like in the movies - except our sitting probably wasn't as nice as Hollywood would have prepared! - Some stuff, eh? I just lack one more mission film earning my 2nd oak leaf cluster to it and as soon as we begin a "mission" again - I expect to have that! -

But - I shall say - they can keep all of them as far as I'm concerned  
just so I get home!

Told you in my other letter about getting the package of cards  
and cans of peanuts. Thanks a lot. I'm sure they will continue  
to be enjoyed until the last crumb is gone! -- The flying again  
tomorrow as first pilot. He getting to be such an accuracy that  
it's getting in the next  
with lightning stage!

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1



432 Sqn., 17th Bomb. Gp.  
A.P.O. 520, 9th Postmstr. N.Y.C.  
October 25, 1943

Hello Folks,-

Surprised to see air mail paper?  
No telling what you might find  
for awhile! - You see, I've inherited  
quite a bit of miscellaneous (?) "crap"  
from these fellows that have gone  
home - among them - "writing paper"  
as you can see! -

I got a pair of "golashes" from  
Fitz when he left, so I'm all set for  
these rainy days ahead that every  
one says we will get. - In fact with  
the acquisition of a little gasoline  
pressure stove (like a blow torch) and  
a rain coat with a liner and all, I'll  
have just about everything except one  
of these super deluxe "bed rolls" the  
Army issued for awhile. Some day I'll  
even manage one of them, I hope! - Surely  
you've seen or read descriptions of 'em  
with rubber mattresses that blow

up and everything.

The rain coat I'm going to get tomorrow if I can get to town. - Was in for it the other day but all they had were too big for me. - However there's supposed to be a new supply in stock tomorrow so that's the why of getting in tomorrow. I believe I described it to you before didn't I? - It has a heavy removable lining with a "parka" affair that pulls over the head and by the time it's all laced and buttoned up - only your eyes are exposed to the elements! I have a regular G.I. one I bought, but the other will be much better if I have to be out much in the weather. Besides - if it has to be done - it will make a passable top coat if I ever need one - tho I don't expect to be where I'll need such a thing for social functions and such. - Just another selling point. (You can see I'm still trying to sell myself on the coat.)

Fitzpatrick & Max Shields left for "home" yesterday. What happy men.



They didn't wait for orders on "how" to go. - Just as soon as they got the orders relieving them from duty over here and telling them to report to the U.S. - our sqdn furnished them a ride to a terminal point. - From there they will "hitch" a ride probably by plane - but perhaps by boat. - Had they waited "travel orders" it would have taken them at least 10 days or 2 weeks more to get started. - Imagine hitch hiking home from Africa!

I told them - as I've told others - that if they should happen to go by or have to report to D.C. - to be sure and look you all up - or at least telephone. - I'm sure they will, if not the others, cause Jitz, as I've said - was pretty close to me! -

I wrote Joe a letter the other day and enclosed most of my negatives I had on my roll of films. - I'll put the rest in here - and then you will have all I can send you of that roll. My next one - the roll of "rest camp" is all finished but needs to be ~~exposed~~ processed. As Capt. Hahn is my agent for having my work



done - and he is away at present, that one will have to wait. - Should be some good pictures on it.

Gee - a cold front has been trying to move in all day - and now it is here. - The wind isn't so much now - but the rain is settling down like it means business. A good night for sleeping. - Talk about your rain on a tin roof, - have you ever heard it on a tent? That has sleeping qualities too!

Went on a ferrying trip a few days ago. - Took a plane to a training base back in Africa (I mean further back!). Was supposed to be picked up at that field by another plane and be brought back here but somehow the time didn't work out. I had to hitch a ride to another field where another plane was and come home with them. - You should have seen my engineer, copilot & myself standing along the roadway with our parachutes - thumbing G.I. trucks as they passed! - All connections were made, however, and we got back in time for dinner (or should I say supper?).

I'm on a crew now - with another "checked out" copilot. - we take turns being first pilot and am sure that the next time



5] the opportunity presents itself - I will be given a crew and ship all of my own. - However, the present arrangements are swell - as we can both share the responsibility - and we have a good time. This is one of the old fellows in the Sqdn - named Harry Foster, ~~and~~ <sup>pharmacist</sup> home in Indianapolis. He used to be a ~~pharmacist~~ <sup>pharmacist</sup>. What queer people fly airplanes!

Sorry to hear of Bill Hatzel being shot down - but glad he survived it all O.K. I take it that since his folks heard from him, he is a prisoner of war? - I know they are glad it's no worse. Fity had a bad break about 2 weeks ago. - His brother was shot down over enemy territory - but the other ships saw all the "chuties" open up, so he is sure his brother is at least a prisoner of war. - He hopes maybe he could have "hold up" and made his way back to friendly lines. - That happens every day - but sometimes it takes months for reports to go thru.

Well, - the rain has put everyone else in the tent asleep, - so guess I can't hold out much longer. - I got up before six this morning and went flying so am sorta ready for "ye olde bed". - Things like sleep sorta slip up on one every so often!

Hope the mail picks up. For some



6. reason, it has slacked up a mite. - I got a  
✓ mail from sister today - the first of any sort  
I've gotten in 4 or 5 days. - There just doesn't  
seem to be much coming in for anyone.

Seems like there was something else I  
wanted to say, - but maybe I will think of it  
next time! - So for now - let's just say  
Quite and Lots & Lots of Love from

Frank

P.S. Sorry the negatives had to be cut up  
so, but I had to censor them as no pictures  
of places can be sent!